



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Yoshiki NAKAGAWA et al.

Serial No.: 09/446,521

: Art Unit: 1711

Filed: March 3, 2000

: Examiner: Mullis, J.

For: BLOCK COPOLYMER

: Atty Docket: 1581/00180

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated May 3, 2001.

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Claims 1-32 are now in the application.

In response to the election of species requirement, applicant hereby elects the following species:

- 1) living radical polymerization produced block copolymer;
- 2) (meth) acrylic monomer at page 25, line 7; and
- 3) (meth) acrylic polymer at page 36, lines 3-4.

Regarding the above item 3), the election of species is being made with traverse.

In particular, polymer (I) contains an alkenyl group. Any blocks formed from the polymer (I) have a structure derived from this alkenyl group. This structure corresponds to a common technical feature under PCT Rule 13.2. Thus, a block formed from a polymer (I) shares a common technical feature with any other block formed from another

polymer (I). Therefore, the Examiner's requirement concerning the election of a single polymer (I) is not deemed tenable.

Claims 1-14, 18-21, 24 and 30-32 read on the elected species.

In view of the above, consideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In the event the Examiner believes an interview might serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned attorney is available at the telephone number noted below.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayment, associated with this communication, including any extension fees, to Deposit Account No. 22-0185.

Respectfully submitted,



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